

Advantages of a Public Improvements Program and a Capital Improvements Budget

A long range public improvements program and capital improvements budget provides the following advantages to the taxpayers, to business and industrial managers and to public officials:

1. Aids the City in stabilizing the economic climate by helping investors, business and industrial managers and home owners to gauge the future more accurately with respect to the physical development of the City and the financial obligations entailed by such developments.
2. Provides a means of assuring that the projects will be carried out in accordance with both predetermined priorities of need and the community's ability to pay for them.
3. Protects the City against the influence of well-meaning groups seeking to advance some interests irrespective of the needs of the City as a whole.
4. Enables required bond issues and necessary tax income adjustments to be foreseen and provisions be made for their accomplishment.
5. Permits coordination of the City program with other governmental agencies, and places the various departments of the City in a better position to program and coordinate their construction activities and operations and to program the procurement of major items of equipment.
6. Lengthens the period available for the proper technical design of community facilities.
7. Permits the advance acquisition of real estate needed for improvements by purchase in a favorable market or the retention of tax delinquent land or unused City property for these improvements.
8. Provides the taxpayer with a clearer picture of what services he is receiving for his tax dollar and helps provide him with information on the total needs of the City so that he may vote intelligently on bond issues.
9. Lastly, a public improvements program, prepared in advance and given proper publicity, serves to foster civic pride, inspires public confidence in the orderly process of City government and encourages participation by citizens in civic affairs.